

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
17 February 2005 (17.02.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/014172 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **B01L 3/00**,
F16K 21/08

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2004/003389

(22) International Filing Date: 4 August 2004 (04.08.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0318359.7 5 August 2003 (05.08.2003) GB

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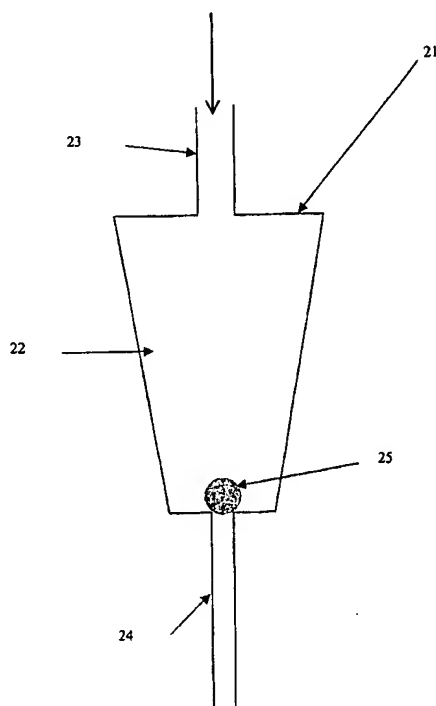
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,
ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MICROFLUIDIC VALVE



(57) Abstract: The invention provides a microfluidic valve comprising a first body for containing fluid having a fluid inlet and a fluid outlet and a plurality of electrodes, and arranged to contain, in use, a second body held within fluid contained in the first body, the second body being moveable toward or away from one of the fluid inlet or fluid outlet, the movement of the second body caused by a phase difference in the electric field generated by the electrodes, such that fluid flow into or out of the first body is controlled. The fluid flow is controlled using one of the dielectrophoretic, electrophoretic or electroosmotic effects. The invention also provides a method of controlling fluid flow, and a microfluidic switch, and microfluidic chip and a diagnostic device, wherein fluid flow is controlled in each.



GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

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— as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations

Published:

— with international search report

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